



GENESIS

THE BOOK OF BEGINNINGS

DEATH AND LIFE

GENESIS 25:1-34

I. Abraham's Death and Descendants. (1-18)

**"Then again Abraham
took a wife, and her
name was Keturah."**

(Genesis 25:1)

**"And she bare him
Zimran, and Jokshan,
and Medan, and
Midian, and Ishbak,
and Shuah."**

(Genesis 25:2)

**"And Jokshan begat
Sheba, and Dedan.
And the sons of Dedan
were Asshurim, and
Letushim, and
Leummim."**

(Genesis 25:3)

**"And the sons of
Midian; Ephah, and
Epher, and Hanoch,
and Abida, and Eldaah.**

**All these were the
children of Keturah."**

(Genesis 25:4)

**"And Abraham gave
all that he had unto
Isaac."**

(Genesis 25:5)

"But unto the sons of the concubines, which Abraham had, Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away from Isaac his son, while he yet lived, eastward, unto the east country." (Genesis 25:6)

"And these are the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years." (Genesis 25:7)

175 Years.

"Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people." (Genesis 25:8)

Gave up the ghost = a poetic expression for breathing one's last breath; dying.

Gave up the ghost - 1) to expire, die, perish, give up the ghost, yield up the ghost, be dead, be ready to die (BDB)

Could be rendered "Abraham died; died in a good old age..."

"And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, which is before Mamre;" (Genesis 25:9)

**"The field which
Abraham purchased
of the sons of Heth:
there was Abraham
buried, and Sarah his
wife." (Genesis 25:10)**

**"And it came to pass
after the death of
Abraham, that God
blessed his son Isaac;
and Isaac dwelt by the
well Lahairoi."**

(Genesis 25:11)

**Beer-lahai-roi = “well of the
Living One seeing me” (BDB)**

**“which was near the
wilderness of Beersheba
and Paran, where Ishmael
dwelt; so that they were not
far from one another” (Gill)**

**"Now these are the
generations of Ishmael,
Abraham's son, whom
Hagar the Egyptian,
Sarah's handmaid,
bare unto Abraham:"**

(Genesis 25:12)

**"And these are the names
of the sons of Ishmael, by
their names, according to
their generations: the
firstborn of Ishmael,
Nebajoth; and Kedar, and
Adbeel, and
Mibsam," (Genesis 25:13)**

**"And Mishma, and
Dumah, and Massa,"
(Genesis 25:14)**

**"Hadar, and Tema,
Jetur, Naphish, and
Kedemah:"
(Genesis 25:15)**

"These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names, by their towns, and by their castles; twelve princes according to their nations." (Genesis 25:16)

**their castles - encampment,
battlement (BDB)**

**Which likely would have
had stone walls. Therefore,
they would have been like
castles though not
Medieval ones.**

“The distinction is, probably, between settled habitations in open unwalled villages, and circles of black tents in which the Bedouins dwell.” (Cambridge Bible Commentary)

"And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, an hundred and thirty and seven years: and he gave up the ghost and died; and was gathered unto his people." (Genesis 25:17)

**"And they dwelt from
Havilah unto Shur, that is
before Egypt, as thou
goest toward Assyria: and
he died in the presence of
all his brethren."**

(Genesis 25:18)

II. The Birth of Esau and Jacob. (19-28)

**"And these are the
generations of Isaac,
Abraham's son:
Abraham begat
Isaac:"**

(Genesis 25:19)

"And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padanaram, the sister to Laban the Syrian." (Genesis 25:20)

**"And Isaac intreated the
LORD for his wife,
because she was barren:
and the LORD was
intreated of him, and
Rebekah his wife
conceived."**

(Genesis 25:21)

**"And the children
struggled together
within her; and she said,
If it be so, why am I
thus? And she went to
enquire of the
LORD." (Genesis 25:22)**

**She may have thought
something was wrong
with the pregnancy.**

**Perhaps she would lose
the baby? If the baby was
a result of prayer, why was
she this way, experiencing
these problems?**

“If it be so, why am I thus?” A lot of people ask this question.

**"And the LORD said unto her,
Two nations are in thy womb,
and two manner of people
shall be separated from thy
bowels; and the one people
shall be stronger than the
other people; and the elder
shall serve the
younger." (Genesis 25:23)**

No wonder she worked with Jacob to trick his father into blessing him instead of Esau. She knew it was God's will for the older (Esau) to serve the younger (Jacob).

(Romans 9:10-13)

10 And not only this; but when Rebecca also had conceived by one, even by our father Isaac;

11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

12 It was said unto
her, The elder shall
serve the younger.

13 As it is written,
Jacob have I loved,
but Esau have I hated.

(Malachi 1:2-3)

2 I have loved you, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob,

3 And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.

**"And when her days
to be delivered were
fulfilled, behold, there
were twins in her
womb."**

(Genesis 25:24)

**"And the first came
out red, all over like
an hairy garment; and
they called his name
Esau."**

(Genesis 25:25)

Esau = “hairy.”

**"And after that came his
brother out, and his hand
took hold on Esau's heel;
and his name was called
Jacob: and Isaac was
threescore years old when
she bare them."
(Genesis 25:26)**

**Jacob = “heel holder”
or “supplanter”**

**"And the boys grew:
and Esau was a
cunning hunter, a man
of the field; and Jacob
was a plain man,
dwelling in
tents." (Genesis 25:27)**

**"And Isaac loved
Esau, because he did
eat of his venison: but
Rebekah loved
Jacob."**

(Genesis 25:28)

Of course, this leads to many problems in a family and for children. Loving one child more than the other causes conflict.

III. Esau Sells His Birthright. (29-34)

**"And Jacob sod
pottage: and Esau
came from the field,
and he was faint:"
(Genesis 25:29)**

**sod pottage - he was
cooking some stew.**

"And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom." (Genesis 25:30)

Edom = “red”

**Literally = “Feed me, I
pray thee, with that
same red; for I am
faint.”**

**"And Jacob said, Sell
me this day thy
birthright."**

(Genesis 25:31)

A birthright was a special honor given to the firstborn son. It included a double portion of the family inheritance along with the honor of one day becoming the family's leader. The oldest son could sell his birthright or give it away if he chose,

but in so doing, he would lose both material goods and his leadership position. By trading his birthright, Esau showed complete disregard for the spiritual blessings that would have come his way if he had kept it. (LASB)

**"And Esau said,
Behold, I am at the
point to die: and what
profit shall this
birthright do to
me?" (Genesis 25:32)**

**"And Jacob said,
Swear to me this day;
and he sware unto
him: and he sold his
birthright unto
Jacob."**

(Genesis 25:33)

**"Then Jacob gave Esau
bread and pottage of
lentiles; and he did eat
and drink, and rose up,
and went his way: thus
Esau despised his
birthright."**

(Genesis 25:34)

**Despised - to
despise, hold in
contempt, disdain
(BDB). He counted it
as a common thing.**

"Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears." (Hebrews 12:15-17)